



# News Release

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## Stephens Lake Park Fire Pit Available for Rental

The Collins Shelter fire pit at Stephens Lake Park is now available for rental through November 13. The Columbia Parks and Recreation staff traditionally makes the fire pit available to those who rent Collins Shelter until the winter sports season begins. Cost of renting the shelter and fire pit is \$28.

Individuals who rent the shelter and fire pit are responsible for providing their own aged logs for burning. Items such as pallets, scrap lumber, treated lumber, tires and leaves are prohibited. It is against park regulations to tear off limbs or use branches from trees in the park. It is also recommended that charcoal lighter fluid, paper or starter logs be used to start fires in the fire pit. Combustible fuels such as kerosene and gasoline are prohibited.

Collins Shelter renters have access to a water hydrant near the shelter. It is recommended that renters bring a bucket and water hose for fire control and to properly extinguish the fire after use. Information regarding the fire pit policy may be found at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/ParksandRec/Parks/Stephens\\_Lake/](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/ParksandRec/Parks/Stephens_Lake/).

After November 13 or as weather permits, Collins Shelter and the fire pit are used as a warming area for those participating in winter sports at Stephens Lake Park, such as sledding and ice skating.

If the weather forecasts snow, Parks and Recreation forestry staff will set out a portable shelter with firewood near the fire pit, to be used exclusively for winter sports warming. If snow falls during the week, a Parks Department staff member will start a fire in the pit for park users.